MEMORANDUM FOR THE

16 February 1962

- This memorandum is for information only.
- Hanson Baldwin, NEW YORK TIMES, telephoned to ask guidance as to whether the U.S. Government feels that discussions between a small group of selected Americans and people from the Iron Curtain countries should get together under Ford Foundation auspices for off-the-record, free for all discussions.
- 3. Baldwin said that Shephard Stone of the Ford Foundation (Stone is a former reporter of the NEW YORK TIMES) asked Baldwin if he would be a member of an American group to meet in Warsaw either in April or May for a completely off-the-record, behind closed doors, without any report being made, meeting on basic American-Russian or American-Polish problems. Baldwin said there have been two of these talks previously with the Russians and one with the Poles. The discussions usually last three or four days. Baldwin asked Stone what these meetings proved; Stone said that what the Americans say when the group gets together goes right to the head of the Red government concerned.
- 4. Baldwin asked if Mr. McCone would give him guidance as to just what the U.S. Government thinks of these meetings and particularly what CIA thinks about them.
- Baldwin said he has not yet secured the opinion of the NEW YORK TIMES as to whether he should or should not attend the meeting, and Baldwin has his doubts about some of the things that the Ford Foundation does, but he believes the TIMES might well be agreeable to his attendance. He does not want the TIMES to know that he asked for CIA or Government guidance.
- Stone told Baldwin that after the meeting in Warsaw there will be a tour around the western border of Poland with another meeting, which would give

the American participants some 8 or 10 days in Poland. Stone told Baldwin that he is also sounding out as probable attendants the following:

> Elliott V. Bell, the publishing executive Vishinsky (?), a professor at Columbia University Bill Griffiths, of MIT George Kistiakowsky James A. Perkins, of the Carnegie Foundation One member of the U.S. Senate (probably Hubert Humphrey) One member of the U.S. House of Representatives

Baldwin said that the last meeting of this nature was attended by Robert Bowie. formerly of the State Department.

7. Pierre Salinger, informed of this by me, said the White House approves of this meeting. Baldwin is in Alaska this week. When he returns, I plan to tell him the Government, including CIA, does not object to U.S. attendance.

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STANLEY J. GROGAN

Assistant to the Director